

Message Text

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51

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 EB-04 SP-02 SS-15 SSO-00 INR-05

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O 071455Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8528

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, CS

SUBJECT: VISIT OF HEAD OF CENTRAL BANK

1. IT HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED HERE THAT THE EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT OF THE CENTRAL BANK, BERNAL JIMENEZ, WILL VISIT WASHINGTON BEGINNING NOVEMBER 11 FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND RELATIVE TO A FURTHER DRAWING BY COSTA RICA FROM THE PETROLEUM FACILITY.

2. THE EMBASSY HAS CONTACTED MR. JIMENEZ TO ASK IF HE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO HAVE DISCUSSIONS WITH ANY USG OFFICIALS DURING HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON. HE STATED THAT HE DOES EXPECT TO MEET WITH AID OFFICIALS AND WOULD WELCOME OTHER APPROPRIATE CONTACTS IF THE EMBASSY WOULD ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS. MR. JIMENEZ IS POLITICALLY CLOSE TO PRESIDENT ODUBER AND HAS PLAYED THE KEY ROLE WITHIN THE COSTA RICAN GOVERNMENT IN RESPONDING TO COSTA RICA'S DIFFICULT BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS, SINCE HE ASSUMED THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CENTRAL BANK TWO MONTHS AGO. THE EMBASSY IS FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY BERNAL JIMENEZ'S PERFORMANCE AND BELIEVES THAT HE WILL PLAY A KEY ROLE IN MANY ASPECTS OF ECONOMIC POLICY HERE. ACCORDINGLY, THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT APPROPRIATE U.S. OFFICIALS WOULD FIND HIM AN INTERESTING AND WORTHWHILE CONTACT.

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3. THE EMBASSY WOULD SUGGEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER ARRANGING APPOINTMENTS FOR BERNAL JIMENEZ WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT AND THE FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD. MR. JIMENEZ STATES THAT HE EXPECTS TO BE IN WASHINGTON FOR ALL OR MOST OF THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 11. HIS SPECIFIC SCHEDULE COULD PROBABLY BEST BE COORDINATED WITH THE COSTA RICAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. THIS EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED BY NOVEMBER 8 WHETHER OR NOT APPOINTMENTS WILL BE MADE WITHIN THE USG FOR MR. JIMENEZ. LANE

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